

REMARKS

Claims 1-49 are pending in the application.

Claims 1, 17, 18, 33-37, 47 and 49 have been rejected.

Claims 2-16, 19-32, 38-46 and 48 are objected to.

Claims 1, 18, 34, 36, and 49 have been amended, as set forth herein.

Claims 2, 19 and 38 have been canceled.

Claims 1, 3-18, 20-37 and 39-49 remain pending in the application.

I. ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Office Action indicates that Claims 2-16, 19-32, 38-46, and 48 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Applicants thank the Examiner for this indication of allowable subject matter, and have amended the claims as suggested by the Examiner. Specifically, independent Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the elements recited in allowable Claim 2, independent Claim 18 has been amended to incorporate the elements recited in allowable Claim 19, and independent Claim 34 has been amended to incorporate the elements recited in allowable Claim 38. The Applicants also have amended independent Claims 36 and 49 to incorporate the elements recited in allowable Claims 2, 19 and 38.

II. CONCLUSION

As a result of the foregoing, the Applicants assert that the remaining Claims in the Application are in condition for allowance, and respectfully request an early allowance of such Claims.

If any issues arise, or if the Examiner has any suggestions for expediting allowance of this Application, the Applicant respectfully invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below or at [rmccutcheon@munckcarter.com](mailto:rmccutcheon@munckcarter.com).

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees connected with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0208.

Respectfully submitted,

MUNCK CARTER, LLP

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